

REMARKS

Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action mailed June 14, 2004. Claims 1-36 were rejected. Applicant has canceled claims 1-36 and submitted new claims 37-63. Claims 37-63 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13-15, 17, 19, 22, 23, 25-27, 29, 31, 34, and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Schlafly (U.S. Patent No. 5,633,998). Claims 4, 6, 12, 16, 18, 24, 28, 30, and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schlafly in view of Liaw et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,104,325), hereinafter “Liaw.” Claims 8, 9, 20, 21, 32, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schlafly in view of Marshall et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,926,806), hereinafter “Marshall.” Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections in light of the following remarks.

Applicant has canceled the above rejected claims without prejudice or disclaimer, and Applicant presents new claims 37-63. Applicant believes that new claims 37-63 are allowable in view of the Office Action and in light of the following remarks.

In regard to independent claim 37, Applicant respectfully submits that Schlafly does not teach or suggest “displaying a column on a display screen, wherein the column comprises a first set of data in a first sub-column and a second set of data in a second sub-column, wherein the first sub-column comprises a first set of fields displayed vertically, wherein the second sub-column comprises a second set of fields displayed vertically, wherein the column comprises a column label substantially spanning at least a combined width of the first sub-column and the second sub-column, and wherein the displaying the column on the display screen comprises displaying the first sub-column on a left side of the second sub-column.” Schlafly discloses (e.g., at Fig. 2A) a standard spreadsheet having multiple columns. Each column includes a set of fields displayed vertically, and each column has its own respective column label. However, Schlafly does not teach or suggest a single column comprising two side-by-side sub-columns. Schlafly

also does not teach or suggest a single column label that substantially spans the width of the sub-columns.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Schlafly does not teach or suggest “redisplaying the column on the display screen in response to the receiving the user input to change the display order of the first sub-column and the second sub-column, wherein the redisplaying the column on the display screen comprises changing the display order by displaying the first sub-column on a right side of the second sub-column.” As noted by the Office Action, it is well known in the art that spreadsheet columns can be moved relative to one another. Nevertheless, Schlafly does not teach or suggest changing the display order of sub-columns within a single column.

In regard to claim 39, Applicant respectfully submits that Schlafly does not teach or suggest “wherein a first field label is displayed atop the first sub-column and below the column label, wherein a second field label is displayed atop the second sub-column and below the column label, and wherein the second field label is displayed alongside the first field label.” As discussed above, Schlafly does not teach or suggest a single column comprising two side-by-side sub-columns. Furthermore, Schlafly does not teach or suggest field labels for the side-by-side sub-columns, where the field labels are displayed below and in addition to the column label.

In regard to claim 43, Applicant respectfully submits that Schlafly does not teach or suggest “wherein the column comprises a third set of data in a third sub-column, wherein the third sub-column comprises a third set of fields displayed vertically; and wherein the column label substantially spans at least a combined width of the first sub-column, the second sub-column, and the third sub-column.” As discussed above, Schlafly does not teach or suggest a single column comprising two side-by-side sub-columns. Furthermore, Schlafly does not teach or suggest a single column comprising three side-by-side sub-columns.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant submits that claims 37-63 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102(a) and §103(a) rejections.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5676-00500/JCH.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☒ Notice of Change of Address

Respectfully submitted,



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